

How can I participate with Cal-SOAP?

Contact the director of the Cal-SOAP consortium located nearest to your school or district to find out more about its program and how to participate.

Cal-SOAP Consortia

Central Coast Cal-SOAP Consortium

Allen Hancock College
800 South College Drive
Santa Maria, CA 93454-6399
(805) 922-6966, ext. 3654
(805) 928-3275 (fax)
Helen Hernandez, Director
hhernandez@hancock.cc.ca.us

Central Valley Cal-SOAP Consortium

Fresno County Office of Education
1111 Van Ness, Room V151
Fresno, CA 93721-2000
(559) 497-3827
Vacant, Director

East Bay Consortium of Educational Institutions, Inc.

314 East 10th Street, Room 9
Oakland, CA 94606
(510) 879-8367
(510) 879-8301 (fax)
Mónica Montenegro, Director
Mmontenegro@eastbayconsortium.org
www.eastbayconsortium.org

Los Angeles Cal-SOAP Education Consortium

California State University, Los Angeles
5151 State University Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90032
(323) 343-3180
(323) 343-3186 (fax)
Vicente McIntosh, Director
vmcintosh@cslanet.calstatela.edu

Merced County Cal-SOAP Consortium

3600 M Street
Merced, CA 95348-2898
(209) 386-6607
(209) 386-6610 (fax)
Gregory C. Soto, Director
Sotog@merced.cc.ca.us
www.mercedcalsoap.com

North Coast Cal-SOAP Consortium

College of the Redwoods Counseling
7351 Tompkins Hill Road
Eureka, CA 95501-9300
(707) 476-4275
(707) 476-4413 (fax)
Marcy Manning, Director
marcy-manning@eureka.redwoods.cc.ca.us

North Valley Cal-SOAP Consortium

Yuba Community College
2088 North Beale Road
Marysville, CA 95901
(530) 749-3857
(530) 749-3817 (fax)
Yvette Santana-Soto, Director
ysantana@yuba.cc.ca.us

Sacramento Cal-SOAP College Horizons Consortium

Sacramento County Office of Education
9738 Lincoln Village Drive
Sacramento, CA 95827
(916) 228-2654
(916) 228-2404 (fax)
Francie Tidey, Director
ftidey@scoe.net

San Diego and Imperial Counties Cal-SOAP Consortium

2351 Cardinal Lane, Building K
San Diego, CA 92123-3743
(858) 569-1866
(858) 569-1136 (fax)
Linda Doughty, Director
ldoughty@ucsd.edu
www.sandiegocalsoap.com

San Francisco Cal-SOAP Consortium

San Francisco College Access Center
1596 Post Street
San Francisco, CA 94109
(415) 921-5537
(415) 563-7109 (fax)
Emalyn Lopus, Director
Elapus@aol.com
www.sfcollgeaccess.org

Cal-SOAP Consortia (cont.)

San Jose Cal-SOAP Consortium

San Jose State University
10th Street, Counter 6
San Jose, CA 95192-0159
(408) 924-2567
(408) 924-2513 (fax)
Vacant, Director

South County Expansion

Gilroy High School
College and Career Center
750 W. 10th Street
Gilroy, CA 95020
(408) 846-7504
(408) 847-2893 (fax)

Santa Barbara Cal-SOAP Consortium

Santa Barbara Junior High School
721 East Cota Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93103
(805) 965-6880
(805) 966-6083
Sue Bracco Gleason, Director
Gleason@sbcc.net
www.sbcalssoap.org

Solano University & Community College Educational Support Services Consortium (SUCCESS)

Solano Community College
4000 Suisun Valley Road, Building 1102
Suisun City, CA 94585-4017
(707) 863-7898
(707) 864-7237 (fax)
Deborah Daniels-Smith, Director
ddaniels@solano.cc.ca.us

South Coast Consortium of Schools and Colleges

Whittier Union High School District
9401 South Painter Avenue
Whittier, CA 90605
(562) 698-8121 ext. 1560
(562) 698-1455 (fax)
Vacant, Director

Southern San Joaquin Valley Cal-SOAP Consortium

Kern County Superintendent's Office
1300 17th Street
Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661) 636-4420
(661) 636-4042 (fax)
Cynthia Rodriguez, Director
cyrodriguez@kern.org
http://kcsos.kern.org/calsoap



Cal-SOAP, c/o California Student Aid Commission, Cal-SOAP Project Coordinator
P.O. Box 419026, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741 calsoap@csac.ca.gov.



Cal-SOAP
CALIFORNIA STUDENT OPPORTUNITY & ACCESS PROGRAM



What is Cal-SOAP?

The California Student Opportunity and Access Program, or Cal-SOAP, is a statewide program designed to increase the number of students attending college. The program serves elementary, middle, high school, and community college students who 1) are from low-income families, 2) will be the first in their family to attend college, or 3) are from areas or schools with low-eligibility or college participation rates.

How Did it Start?

The State Legislature established Cal-SOAP in 1978 as a pilot program targeting low-income students. Services began in 1979. The California Postsecondary Education Commission was charged with evaluating the program. Their favorable review led to the continuation of the program. Current law Senate Bill 1666 (Chapter 626, Statutes of 1998, Solis) repealed the inoperative date and made Cal-SOAP an on-going program.

How is Cal-SOAP Structured?

Today Cal-SOAP operates 15 Consortia in 17 locations throughout California and serves approximately 95,000 students. It is one of the largest outreach programs of its kind in California.

Each project is operated through a consortium of multiple partners involving many or all of the following: school districts, the University of California, the California State University, the California Community Colleges, independent California colleges and universities, and other community-based organizations. The consortium model allows Cal-SOAP to take the lead in coordinating the postsecondary education outreach efforts of these organizations. By minimizing duplication, services can be delivered more cost effectively.

The 15 individual consortia contract directly with the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) and are given considerable autonomy in their operation. This enables them to select and design activities that fulfill unique needs of their respective communities. A governing board, comprised of at least one representative from each participating school or agency, provides direction and oversight for the project.

Who administers the program?

Since its inception, the Commission has administered the program with recommendations and counsel from a 12- member advisory committee mandated by the legislature. The Commission provides guidance to all of the program's consortia and their directors.

How does the program benefit students?

Cal-SOAP has helped encourage thousands of students to realize the opportunities that a postsecondary education provides. For many students who may think they are not academically eligible for college or do not have the money to attend, Cal-SOAP opens the door, encouraging them to change their attitudes about learning, and providing them with the tools and services to improve their achievement levels, learn about different colleges, and secure financial aid so they can attend the college of their choice.

What academic support is offered?

The Cal-SOAP program provides participants the following academic support activities:

In-class and after-class tutoring in subjects critical to high school graduation and college preparation such as English, math, and science
Help with basic math and literacy skills
College entrance test preparation (PSAT, SAT, ACT)
Preparation for other types of tests (High School Exit Exam, SAT 9, CSU Math and English placement tests)
Learning strategies workshops
Accelerated learning during summer programs/institutes

How does the program help motivate students?

As part of the academic program, participants often work with college students, who may become positive role models for Cal-SOAP middle and high school students. Many consortia also offer special motivational programs. Motivational support is provided by:

Tutors and mentors, often from backgrounds similar to those of the students, and with whom the students can identify. These staff members understand where the students are coming from and what they are experiencing.
I'm Going to College, a program that educates elementary students about college life and concludes with a trip to a local college.



Cal-SOAP has helped thousands of students raise their achievement levels and become eligible for college.

College: Making It Happen, a program for middle school families and educators that communicates the importance of early academic preparation and financial planning.

Transfer: Making It Happen, a program that helps students access community college and transfer to a four-year institution.

How does Cal-SOAP help students learn more about college?

The program offers activities that increase knowledge among students and their parents about college preparation and financial aid availability. At Cal-SOAP sponsored events, college recruiters meet with students and parents and make presentations on admissions, financial aid, and support services. Consortia often schedule college tours for students, and may provide career planning assistance. Students may also receive help in college application and admission forms. Advisors are available to meet with students in groups as well as in individual sessions. These sessions may include the following information:

College availability, preparation and admission
Career planning
Financial aid
College tours and on campus residential experiences
Guest speakers from colleges who visit middle school and high school classes
College fairs and college awareness weeks

How does the program help parents?

Parents are a key element in Cal-SOAP programming. Each Consortia provides outreach to their students' parents and includes them in their activities.

What role do school staffs play?

High school teachers, counselors, and administrators are involved in planning and coordinating Cal-SOAP activities, and often help lead them. Examples include assisting with the coordination of parent meetings, securing access to school facilities, identifying eligible students, and participating on governing boards and Consortia committees. The close relationship with counselors and teachers helps Cal-SOAP administrators stay in touch with the particular needs of school staff and their students.

Where does Cal-SOAP get its funding?

Base funding for Cal-SOAP comes from the State's General Fund. Individual Consortia apply directly to the Commission each year for continued state funding, and are required to match state funds through contributions from the members of their consortium and other sources. This arrangement maximizes the resources available for regional student outreach services.

How is the program evaluated?

As mandated by state legislation, the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC) is charged with periodically evaluating all Cal-SOAP programs. The main criterion used to evaluate the effectiveness of Cal-SOAP programs is college participation rates. Cal-SOAP consortia also produce other positive results not reflected in college participation rates. Perhaps foremost among these are changes in students' attitudes and goals, which are documented in individual Consortia reports.

